

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Alie Confirmation No.: 2833
Appl. No.: 09/939,782 Group Art Unit: 3625
Filed: August 27, 2001 Examiner: Robert M. Pond
For: INTERNATIONAL CASH-ON-DELIVERY SYSTEM AND METHOD

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
CITATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449 along with a copy of any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature documents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By identifying the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead identifying the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

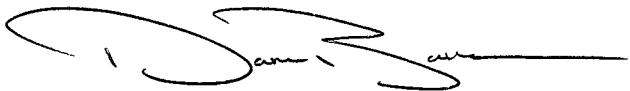
Applicant notes that each item of information listed on form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

It is our understanding, which is based solely on the translated abstracts and the Japanese examiner's characterization of the references, that the references do not teach or suggest a system and method of transmitting a hold command associated with a physical goods package received at a first location, moving the package to an intermediate location and holding the package pending the issue of a release command by the system, whereby the release command is in response to verification of payment by the buyer into an escrow account. In fact, referring to the enclosed translation, the Japanese examiner particularly characterized the JP 2001-175743 reference: "[u]pon receiving the notice

payment confirmation, the seller makes shipment to the purchaser” Moreover, with respect to the JP 2001-195466 reference, the abstract describes a process in which a distribution company is requested to transmit merchandise after the purchase price is received in a depository account associated with an intermediary. Accordingly, Applicant does not believe the references teach or suggest the claimed invention.

In addition, Applicant is submitting two references (Westrope and Cassidy) that were previously submitted, but that may not have been signed off by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



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|--|---|----|---|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <p>Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 07/2005)</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p> | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 09/939,782 |
| | | | | Filing Date | August 27, 2001 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Alie |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | 3625 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Robert M. Pond |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 018360/218130 |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. | Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | US-5,721,832 | 02/24/19998 | Westrope et al. | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. | Foreign Patent Document Country Code – Number Kind Code (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | JP 2001-175743 | 06/29/2001 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 2001-195466 | 07/19/2001 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 2001-184444 | 07/06/2001 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 2001-175730 | 06/29/2001 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 2001-142954 | 05/25/2001 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 2001-229434 | 08/24/2001 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 2001-216382 | 08/10/2001 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 11-153444 | 02/26/1999 | | Abstract only |
| | | JP 10-187830 | 07/21/1998 | | Abstract only |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | English Language Translation Attached |
| | | Japan Patent Office, Official Action dated December 21, 2006, in JP Application No. 2003-523333 | | | Yes |
| | | WILLIAM B. CASSIDY; Technology; Mitsui USA Adds Software; traffic WORLD; January 21, 2002, Page 40 | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.